

services that may be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability in light of the heightened threat.

Mr. President, I suggest that President Nixon must be simply spinning in his grave tonight. When Richard Nixon first opened relations with Beijing some 20 years ago he believed that Asia could not progress if China remained isolated. His actions promised to help that country enter into a new and constructive relationship with the rest of the modern world. But in recent months, the leaders of Beijing have taken a number of self-defeating actions that can only turn back the pages of history and cripple China's economic progress.

Over the past 8 months, the People's Republic of China has conducted a series of military exercises, including missile tests, in close proximity to Taiwan. Now, we hear reports of the largest and closest military exercise to take place next week, just 1 week before the first democratic Presidential elections on Taiwan. What is more, Beijing has reportedly included veiled threats against the United States for supporting the process of free elections. One news report indicated that during an interview, a Chinese leader scoffed at the notion that the United States would defend Taiwan by saying the United States cares more about "Los Angeles than Taiwan." China, of course, produces missiles capable of launching nuclear warheads against both Taiwan and Los Angeles, and certainly against my home State of Alaska.

I feel confident that these reports, of course, are false, but China's most recent announcement that it intends to conduct massive tests near Taiwan, in effect imposing a miniblockade of Taiwan's two major ports prior to the Taiwan Presidential elections, does little to inspire confidence.

Some China watchers are inclined to rationalize Beijing's behavior. Apologists have blamed China's belligerence on the firm stand taken by this Congress. Today it is clear that China, not the Congress, is to blame for the current state of United States-China relations. Time and time again, before and after the 1989 Tiananmen Square attack on student protesters, China's rulers have shown themselves to be almost oblivious to the fact that a larger world—a world sensitive to human rights concerns, one that believes in religious and political freedom, and free and fair trade—exists beyond the People's Republic of China's borders.

People's Republic of China's President Jiang Zemin and his lieutenants must understand that this is why the United States finds China's ballistic missile diplomacy unacceptable. We support the peaceful settlement of differences between China and Taiwan and cannot idly watch a peaceful, democratic ally—which Taiwan is—be threatened.

Therefore, it is time for Congress, as set forth in this Senate resolution, to recommit the United States to the Tai-

wan Relations Act of 1979, which clearly states that America believes that peace and stability in the area are in the political, security and economic interests of the United States.

Further, the law of the land, the Taiwan Relations Act, commits the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security or the social or economic system of the people of Taiwan.

We must remind Beijing that the decision of the United States to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China in 1979 was based upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means.

We also must continue selling Taiwan defensive weapons to help counter any thoughts China may have of using military force against the island. Along with these weapons, we must let the leaders in Beijing know that threats are useless as tools of foreign policy and are the rusted relics of diplomacy from a bygone and dangerous era.

China's leaders must know economic gains will evaporate if continued military threats—or worse—create havoc in East Asia. Beijing's officials must understand they cannot conduct business as usual with the world if missiles start falling in the Straits of Taiwan. They also need to know that the fear of war is often every bit as chilling to investment as the real thing.

Mr. President, I also want to add that Congress should congratulate the people of Taiwan for their continued advancement toward democracy. Congress should also state our support for the people of Taiwan to become involved in international organizations. Taiwan has emerged as a force for democracy and stability in Asia, and its people should be represented. The United States must also continue at the same time to encourage a true dialog between Beijing and Taipei that will lead to understanding and conciliation, rather than threats and confrontation.

With this latest round of threats against Taiwan—and the United States—it simply is time to step back and gather forces to support reason and dialog rather than the rumblings of hostility and war.

President Nixon was certainly correct in seeing the vast potential importance of China as a world economic power. But 25 years later the world still waits for Beijing to abandon its totalitarian ways and behave consistently as a civilized nation.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, in open session, to receive testimony on the 1996 ballistic missile defense update review.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, in open session, to receive testimony on the Department of Energy Environmental Management Program [EM], and on the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board [DNFSB] activities.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the issue of competitive change in the electric power industry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, March 6, for a joint hearing with the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee at 9:30 a.m., for a hearing on the Oversight of the Government Performance and Results Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, at 10 a.m. in SD-226 to hold a hearing on "Interstate Transportation of Human Pathogens."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on the Reauthorization of National Institutes of Health, during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, at 10 a.m., in room SR-428A, to mark up legislation pending in the committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select

Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, at 9 a.m., in SH-216, to hold an open hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing to discuss telemarketing fraud against the elderly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIA AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asia Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, at 2 p.m., to hold hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### TERRORISTS IN ISRAEL

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, once again, terrorists have targeted the heart of Israel. My prayers are with the people of Israel as they mourn the latest victims. Over 60 people have died in the terror of the last 10 days, and the peace process may die as well.

We cannot understand the kind of evil and cowardice that kills children as they walk to a party; families as they walk down the street on a holiday; ordinary and innocent people on their way to work. They time their attacks to kill as many civilians as possible. They load their bombs with nails—to make sure that all injuries are serious. Their goal is to kill Jews and to strike a death knell on the peace process.

Israelis are angry and afraid. Their confidence in the peace process is badly shaken—and I don't blame them. They have given up land and security in exchange for peace. Yet they still live under constant threat.

We must stand by Israel as a friend and ally. I support the President's plan to provide immediate assistance to Israel. The United States will use our intelligence agencies to help them route out these terrorists. We will provide specialized explosive detection equipment and technical experts. And America will lead an international effort to better coordinate the war against terrorism. Only an international effort will track down these killers and those who bankroll them. The international community must also condemn these acts of terrorism—and ensure that no country provides a sanctuary for these killers.

The Palestinian Authority can and must do more to stop Hamas. If they

don't show the will to confront terrorism, the chance for peace will be lost.

I hope that the peace process can continue. But friends do not tell friends what to do. As Americans, we cannot tell Israel what risks are worth taking for peace. We can only imagine what it is to live in a country that is less than 9 miles wide at its narrowest point—and still surrounded by enemies.

Israel has defended itself in five wars for survival. But in this war against terrorism, all ordinary citizens are on the front lines. The international community must stand with Israel. We must ensure that the fanatics do not prevail.●

#### HONORING THE U.S. TAP TEAM

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Gloria Jean Cuming and the United States Tap Team, recent winners of the Annual World TapDance Championships, which were held in Dresden, Germany.

Not only is this victory prestigious and respected around the world, but the victory was a special one for the team and our country. This is the first time in the history of the competition that the U.S. team won the coveted title. In addition to the sterling team performance, two individuals, Linda Provo and Stacy Eastman, advanced to the finals of the individual competition, the only 2 women among the 12 semi-finalists to do so.

All 22 dancers are from the New Haven area in my State of Connecticut, and they all study at Ms. Cuming's dance studios. Ms. Cuming not only selected the team, but was their choreographer and assistant technical director as well.

Mr. President, I know that you and the entire Senate joins me in congratulating these fine performers, who represent their art and their country with the greatest of skill and pride.●

#### MARY BETH BLEGEN, MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, with great pleasure and enthusiasm I would like to recognize Mary Beth Blegen as the Minnesota Teacher of the Year. Not only has Ms. Blegen been awarded the 1995 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, but she has also been selected as one of the four distinguished finalists for the National Teacher of the Year program. Ms. Blegen arrived in Washington Sunday and has been giving a presentation sharing her dedication to the youth of Minnesota, attending press conferences, and giving interviews for the National Teacher of the Year Award. Despite her rigorous schedule I was delighted to meet with Ms. Blegen to give her my support and of course wish her the best in the competition.

Mary Beth Blegen a dedicated educator for 30 years, is a teacher of English, writing, and humanities at Worthington Senior High School. Ms. Blegen il-

lustrates the dedication Minnesotans have to providing quality education for our children. It is also my honor to note that three previous National Teachers of the Year have been from Minnesota and only California has contributed more teachers to this national award.

I'd also like to recognize Minnesota's biggest education organization, the Minnesota Education Association [MEA], and its 48,000 members, who represent over 80 percent of Minnesota's public school teachers. MEA has sponsored the Minnesota Teacher of the Year program for 33 years.●

#### TAX RELIEF FOR UNITED STATES TROOPS SERVING IN BOSNIA

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2778, just received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will state the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2778) to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing services for the peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Macedonia, shall be entitled to tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, the House recently passed legislation to provide much needed tax relief for American troops who are performing peacekeeping services in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Macedonia.

When our young men and women wear our uniform in these war-torn regions, I want them to know that they have my unqualified support. I want them to know that they are there for a reason. They are on important missions—missions to help free these war-torn areas from their undemocratic pasts.

While I would have preferred to limit our involvement to strategic and tactical air and sea support, we must now give our full support to our troops. This legislation provides much needed tax relief for our troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia.

Let me briefly outline the major aspects of this legislation. First, the bill exempts from Federal income tax military pay received by enlisted personnel while performing peacekeeping services in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia.

Second, the bill exempts military pay received by commissioned officers while serving in those areas in an amount equal to the highest monthly pay for enlisted personnel which is currently \$4,104.80 per month.

Third, military pay received by those hospitalized as a result of injuries incurred while performing peacekeeping